

Date: August 29, 2002
Project Name: Goldsborough Creek Restoration
Non-Federal Sponsor: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Location: Shelton Washington
Congressional District: 6
Project Completion: 30 September 2001
Project Cost: \$4,500,000
Authority: Section 206, Continuing Authorities Program
Project Manager: Mike Padilla, 206 764-6734
Coordinated With: Squaxin Island Indian Tribe, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
And the Simpson Timber Company

Project Location:

The restoration site is located in Southwest Washington, just east of the City of Shelton in Mason County. The project is located at river mile 2.3 on Goldsborough Creek. Downstream of the project area, the creek runs through the City of Shelton and empties into Oakland Bay.

Project Description:

Upstream of the project, the creek flows freely through forested areas draining approximately 60 square miles of high quality habitat. An old timber dam and its associated channel degradation had created a bottleneck in the system hindering upstream and downstream passage of fish. This dam was replaced with a hydraulically engineered multiple weir system that allows fish passage and controls the hydraulics of the creek in that reach. The timber dam no longer served a useful purpose and indeed was beginning to fail safety requirements for dams. The project provides upstream passage of both chum and coho salmon and provided grade control of the stream. The new weir system opens up 12 miles of prime habitat on the upper Goldsborough Creek. Habitat enhancement features included woody debris, plantings, spawning gravels, and boulders to support ecosystem functions.

Project Results/Monitoring Status:

The juvenile and adult salmon surveys conducted from 1998-2000 represent pre-project baseline information. Surveys conducted in 2001 are the first of a five-year post-project monitoring period. Similar numbers of both species were enumerated in reference reaches located upstream and downstream from the former dam site. Coho salmon were observed spawning in South Fork Goldsborough Creek, a tributary located approximately 7.5 miles upstream from the former dam site, for the first time during the 2001-2002 monitoring period. A 2001 spawner survey report is due in late September 2002 and a spring 2002 juvenile salmon outmigration monitoring report is due in November 2002.



Demolition of the dam



Bank stabilization and plantings



Downstream looking up at the completed project



Aerial view of completed project